

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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FOR AF/C MARCUS

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TAGS: PDIP, CM, US

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. HERewith FOLLOWS TEXT OF PROPOSED REMARKS FOR MY PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS. I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTED CHANGES BE SENT BY RETURN IMMEDIATE CABLE NLT 1100 EDT THIS MORNING. SORRY FOR SHORT FUSE, BUT PROTOCOL WANTS TEXT TODAY AS THEY WISH SCHEDULE PRESENTATION ASAP.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I HAVE THE GREAT HONOR AND PERSONAL PLEASURE OF PRESENTING TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE LETTERS OF CREDENCE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER DESIGNATING ME TO REPRESENT HIM AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON. I TAKE THE OCCASION ALSO TO PRESENT THE LETTER OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, MR. HERBERT J. SPIRO.

3. WHILE THIS IS NOT MY FIRST EXPERIENCE IN AFRICA, IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO CAMEROON. IN THIS RESPECT, I FEEL SINGULARLY FORTUNATE TO BE PRESIDENT CARTER'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN CAMEROON. I ARRIVE IN YAOUNDE AT A TIME WHEN THERE ARE AUSPICIOUS CHANGES IN EVIDENCE. I SEE AS THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF MY MISSION HERE THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WHICH HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS.

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4. I HAVE LONG ADMIRERD THE MODEL OF STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT WHICH CAMEROON REPRESENTS UNDER YOUR THOUGHTFUL AND SAPIENT LEADERSHIP. YOU HAVE STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF IMPROVING THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF YOUR RICH AND DIVERSE AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES. AS A RESULT, CAMEROON IS ALMOST UNIQUE AS A BASICALLY AGRICULTURAL COUNTRY ABLE TO DIRECT ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT. AS YOUR VARIED MINERAL

RESOURCES ARE BROUGHT INTO PRODUCTION, THE TRUE RICHNESS OF THE COUNTRY WILL BE MORE FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED.

5. I COME TO CAMEROON DURING A TIME OF FRUITFUL AND FAST-MOVING TRANSITION WHEN MY GOVERNMENT, THROUGH OUR USAID, PEACE CORPS, AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, IS INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN ASSISTING YOUR GOVERNMENT WITH ITS GOALS OF SELF-RELIANT AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT. MY GOVERNMENT STANDS READY TO ASSIST YOUR GOVERNMENT IN MEETING THOSE GOALS TO WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN THE HIGHEST PRIORITY. ONE EXAMPLE IS THE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION WE ARE PREPARING IN SUPPORT OF TRANSCAM III. AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE DOING THIS AS AN EXCEPTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE AGAINST FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN FAVOR OF PROJECTS WHICH DIRECTLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE RURAL POOR. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT CAMEROON'S OVERALL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AS SET FORTH IN THE FOURTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN PLACES HIGHEST PRIORITY ON ASSURING THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF THE RURAL POPULATION. IN RESPONSE AND IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT, WE ARE PREPARING NEW PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURE, IN LIVESTOCK AND RANGE MANAGEMENT, IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND IN EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT. THE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER BRINGS TO CAMEROON SPEAKERS IN THE FIELDS OF MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS; IT ASSISTS IN IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND SUPPORTS PROFESSIONAL VISITS TO THE UNITED STATES. AMERICAN PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS WORK FOR THE CAMEROON GOVERNMENT IN COOPERATIVES, FISH POND DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND EDUCATION.

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6. AMERICAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARE ALSO HEAVILY INVOLVED IN FINANCING ROAD BUILDING, AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION AND THE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT. THEY ARE PARTICIPATING IN SOME OF YOUR HIGHEST PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, SUCH AS CELLUCAM AND SOFIBEL. IF CURRENT EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AMERICAN BANKS IN CAMEROON PROVE SUCCESSFUL, THEY WILL THEN BE IN AN EVEN BETTER POSITION TO SUPPORT YOUR DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. AMERICAN PETROLEUM COMPANIES ARE ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR HYDROCARBONS.

7. YOUR COUNTRY TOOK THE LEAD IN THE RECENT CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN ESTABLISHING A DECADE OF TRANSPORTATION. MY GOVERNMENT HAS SUPPORTED THIS INITIATIVE.

8. I COME TO AFRICA DURING A PERIOD WHEN WE EXPECT TO SEE THE LAST GREAT AREA OF NON-MAJORITY RULE TO THE SOUTH OF US FINALLY TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS OF ALL OF ITS CITIZENS. AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS FULLY SUPPORTED AND COLLABORATED IN THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO SEEK A PEACEFUL FORMULA FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF MAJORITY RULE IN ZIMBABWE. WE HAVE TAKEN

ACTION TO BRING OUR COUNTRY INTO FULL COMPLIANCE WITH UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS AGAINST THE PRESENT ILLEGAL REGIME IN ZIMBABWE. WE ARE WORKING WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO BRING ABOUT, WITH UNITED NATIONS PARTICIPATION, A FREE AND INDEPENDENT

NAMIBIA. FINALLY MY GOVERNMENT IS TAKING INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO BRING TO AN END APARTHEID AND ITS ATTENDANT INEQUALITIES OF ACCESS TO ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

9. MY GOVERNMENT SEES WHAT IS HAPPENING AS PART OF A LARGER PROCESS. WHILE WE MAY NOT SUCCEED AT EVERY STAGE IN ADVANCING OUR GOALS, AND TEMPORARY SETBACKS CAN BE ANTICIPATED, WE SHALL NOT BECOME DISCOURAGED OR LESSEN OUR DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES AS THEY STRIVE FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE. WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO REACH PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS; THE ALTERNATIVE IS WAR WITH ITS TRAGIC AND COSTLY SACRIFICE OF HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES, BURDENING MOST THOSE WHOSE NEED IS GREATEST.

10. IN THE WORLD AT LARGE, PRESIDENT CARTER IS TAKING VITAL INITIATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THE ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES. FOR EXAMPLE, HE IS ACTIVELY ATTEMPTING TO FACILITATE A MORE PERMANENT SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. HE HAS JUST SENT TO CONGRESS A NEW TREATY ON THE PANAMA CANAL AND HE IS CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS. WE EXPECT TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC ISSUES IN THE APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL FORA. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DECLARED "THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST ACQUIRE FULLER PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC DECISION-MAKING PROCESS." UNITED STATES POLICY PLANNING IS OPEN AND POSITIVE ON THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS TO STABILIZE COMMODITY PROCES AND PROTECT DEVELOPING NATIONS FROM DISASTROUS MARKET CHANGES FOR THEIR PRODUCTS. HERE, AGAIN, WHILE WE MAY EXPERIENCE TEMPORARY SETBACKS, WE SHALL NOT BE DETERRED IN OUR DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE JUST AND LASTING SETTLEMENTS OF OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

11. FINALLY, I MENTION WITH PRIDE THE DEEP AND PERSONAL COMMITMENT OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS ADMINISTRATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS. I SHARE THIS COMMITMENT; MOST OF MY LIFE HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO ASSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS. I KNOW, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT SHARE THIS DEDICATION, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO MEETING THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF THE PEOPLES OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD. AS PRESIDENT CARTER HAS SAID, "THE BASIC THRUST OF HUMAN AFFAIRS POINTS TOWARD A MORE UNIVERSAL DEMAND FOR FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. THE UNITED STATES HAS A HISTORIC BIRTHRIGHT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCESS. WE IN THE UNITED STATES ACCEPT THIS RESPONSIBILITY IN THE FULLEST AND MOST CONSTRUCTIVE SENSE. OURS IS A COMMITMENT, NOT JUST A POLITICAL POSTURE.... WE ARE DETERMINED, THEREFORE, TO DEAL WITH OUR DEFICIENCIES QUICKLY AND OPENLY."

12. IN CLOSING, I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THAT I SEE MY TASK AS THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TWO COUNTRIES, CONSTANTLY BUILDING ON OUR MANY AREAS OF
INTERDEPENDENCE. TO THIS END I STAND EVER READY TO CONTRIBUTE TO
THE CONTINUING DIALOGUE BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND WOULD AT ALL
TIMES VALUE ANY SUGGESTIONS FROM YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AS TO HOW I
MIGHT MOST EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT MY MISSION. END TEXT. SMYTHE

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